

# **ARENA ADVISORY MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, December 14, 2023 Everett Arena 8:00 AM

## **Roll Call**

Present: Chairman Nick Wallner; Mike Gfroerer; Councilor Zandra Rice-Hawkins; Jeff Cain; Jed Mellow; Claire Gruenfelder; Dan Arndt; Chris Brown; Councilor Gail Matson; Public Properties Superintendent Jay Burgess; Arena & Properties Manager Jeff Bardwell

Absent: Joe Farrelly

Meeting called to order at 8:05

## **FY2025 Rates**

The Arena Manager briefed the committee on the final unaudited position of the FY2023 budget. FY2023 was budgeted to end 43,560 in the negative but only ended 13,002 in the negative. When updating the pro forma the arena position stays positive into the FY30's. Also, when comparing rates to other arena's in the state the Everett has the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest rate of the 23 rinks surveyed and has the highest prime rate of those within a 25-mile radius. Based on this information staff is recommending not to increase the ice rental rates for FY2025 and to increase non-ice show rates approximately three percent and the roller-skating party rate by twenty-five dollars.

Jeff Cain inquired about the rate Concord Youth Hockey Association is charged as it is the largest user at the arena and if it was possible to charge a lower rate. Discussion took place regarding discounted rates and what other rinks were charging their youth hockey organizations. Staff will discuss future rates internally and arena advisory will revisit during the summer of 2024.

Mike Gfroerer made a motion to approve the proposed rates, Gail Matson 2<sup>nd</sup> , motion passed unanimously with Chris Brown abstaining.

## **Master Plan Update**

Public Properties Superintendent, Jay Burgess updated the committee on the Kiwanis Park Master Plan status. VHB Engineering has been working on the plan and has completed test borings on the site. The plan is continuing on track with little deviation. Nick Wallner expressed concern that the parking lot layout with the number of trees may prevent the Kiwanis Spring Fair from taking place. It was also noted that Concord Crew is looking to expand their building. Staff will update advisory as things progress.

## **Solar**

The Arena Manager spoke with the City's energy consultant from Beacon Energy regarding solar as an option at the arena. Kearsarge Energy is currently doing several solar projects with the City and reviewed the Everett Arena as a potential site. The project would be too small for Kearsarge Energy to consider a Power Purchase Agreement. They estimate the project would produce 50 kW using the flatter portion of the roof. If the sloped section can be pursued with a fastened racking system there is a potential for up to 110kW. There are smaller vendors that may consider such a project, staff will review with city administration to see if this is worth pursuing.

## **Committee Members**

This is the final meeting for council members, Gail Matson and Zandra Rice-Hawkins. The rest of the arena advisory committee and staff recognized them for their service to City and to the arena and appreciate their input over the years.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey R. Bardwell  
Arena & Properties Manager